

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ASEC, PDIP, UR, US (IVANOV, ALEKSANDR NIKOLAYEVICH)

SUBJECT: SOVIET EMBASSY PROTEST ABOUT ACTIONS BY MARYLAND
POLICE

REF: STATE 47673

1. SOVIET EMBASSY SENT BY MESSENGER AN APRIL 5 DIPLOMATIC
NOTE ABOUT MARYLAND STATE POLICE HANDLING OF A SOVIET WHITE
LIST EMPLOYEE STOPPED FOR SPEEDING NEAR BELTWAY AND BRANCH
ROAD IN SUBURBAN MARYLAND.

2. FULL TEXT OF NOTE FOLLOWS:

3. QUOTE: THE EMBASSY OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
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REPUBLICS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DRAWS THE ATTEN-
TION OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO THE CONTINUING IN-
STANCES OF ARBITRARY AND UNWARRANTABLE BEHAVIOR, ALLOWED BY
THE LOCAL POLICE IN REGARD TO EMPLOYEES OF OFFICIAL SOVIET
INSTITUTIONS, WHO HAVE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY, IN ACCORDANCE
WITH INTERNATIONAL ACTS AND BILATERAL SOVIET-AMERICAN
AGREEMENTS.

4. ON FEBRUARY 23, 1978 THE EMBASSY ALREADY LODGED A PROTEST WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN CONNECTION WITH THE FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE IMMUNITY OF EMBASSY EMPLOYEES BARINOV AND SEMIOKHIN. IN SPITE OF THIS, ON APRIL 5, 1978 AT 9 A.M. ALEKSANDR NIKOLAYEVICH IVANOV, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE TRADE MISSION OF THE U.S.S.R. (AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION NUMBER WN-1967), WAS STOPPED BY A POLICE PATROL CAR FOR ALLEGEDLY EXCEEDING THE SPEED LIMIT ON THE BELTWAY NEAR THE INTERSECTION WITH ROUTE 5. DESPITE THE FACT THAT A.N. IVANOV PRESENTED DOCUMENTS CONFIRMING THAT HE IS ATTACHED TO AN OFFICIAL SOVIET MISSION, THE POLICEMAN HANDCUFFED AND SEARCHED HIM, DRAGGED HIM RUDELY INTO THE POLICE CAR, AND STARTED DRIVING TO THE LOCAL POLICE STATION. ON THE WAY, HOWEVER, AFTER CONTACTING HIS SUPERIORS, THE POLICEMAN WAS FORCED TO RELEASE MR. IVANOV.

5. THE EMBASSY LODGES A PROTEST WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS CASE OF ARBITRARY AND UNWARRANTABLE BEHAVIOR BY A POLICEMAN TOWARD AN EMPLOYEE OF AN OFFICIAL SOVIET INSTITUTION IN THE U.S. AND DEMANDS THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO PREVENT SUCH ACTIONS. END OF QUOTE.

6. REPORT OF INCIDENT WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTTEL. VANCE

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